SUBJECTS.

denominational school, if it satisfied all other conditions necessary, should be suppressed merely on the ground of its vicinity to other schools, as it was essentially necessary that Christian children should be educated under healthy Christian influences. But, since submitting his memorandum, the Government had passed two Proceedings, dealing *inter alia* with the points mentioned in his memorandum. He therefore thanked the Government for the same and assured the Government, on behalf of his constituents, that it was far from their intention or desire to deprive themselves of the numerous educational facilities so very generously offered by the Government to all its subjects, by asking the Government to restrict the education of the Roman Catholic boys entirely to Roman Catholic institutions. He added that the community was grateful for the kindness they had so far received at the hands of the Government, and they hoped that the Government would be pleased to encourage and foster as many Catholic schools as possible in the country.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

55. ***Encouragement to students coming from long distances for education in the Higher Grade Schools.***

Mr. A. Harihara Iyer (Member, Chirayinkil Taluk) said that several boys came from long distances to prosecute their studies in the Higher Grade Schools, and the poor among them invariably starved in the noon. The Member therefore requested that, as an encouragement to them, the poor among the students might be granted a tiffin allowance of one chackram per head by the Government and that any balance required would be supplemented by the people of the locality. He added that the cost would only be nominal, but it would be a great boon to the poor children.

Dewan's reply.— Noted.

56. ***Applications for the establishment of new schools.***

Revd. P. J. Joshua B. A. (Member, Kunnathur Taluk) said that there were many Elementary Schools in the taluk but the absence of a Secondary School at a central place like Adur for the students of those schools to continue their studies was a sore need. About a dozen schools were maintained by the Church Missionary Society, but the students coming out of these schools had to go to Thiruvella and Mavelikara if they aspired to anything higher than primary education. Private enterprise in the matter was not equal to the occasion, as the people were mostly illiterate and the requirements of the new Education Code were too difficult to be complied with by the Missionary agency. He therefore requested that the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

SUBJECTS.

Government might be pleased to establish a Lower Grade Secondary School at Adur at an early date.

Mr. Kumaran Kochu Padmanabhan (Member, Shertallai Taluk) said that Alleppey was 14 miles from Shertallai and that, owing to the absence of an English School, the people of the taluk were still backward in point of education. He therefore requested that an English School might be opened at a central place between Shertallai and Alleppey.

Mr. M. Sivathanu Pillai (Member, Agasteeswaram Taluk) said that Narayananputhur was situated in the centre of a large number of villages of the Agasteeswaram taluk, and owing to the want of a Secondary School at the place, the children of these villages had to walk from 4 to 10 miles in order to attend the Kottar High School. The people of the locality were very eager to have the benefits of English education for their children. He therefore prayed that the Government might be pleased to open a Lower Grade Secondary School at Narayananputhur and thus confer a lasting benefit on the loyal subjects of the *pakuthies* of Agasteeswaram, Parakai, Suchindram and Therur.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

57. Raising the standard of the Kottarakara Lower Grade Secondary School.

Mr. C. P. Kochuhunju Pillai (Member, Kottarakara Taluk) said that the prayer of the people of the taluk was that the Lower Grade Secondary School at Kottarakara should be raised to the Higher Grade. But, as he learnt from the Gazette that the Government had it in contemplation, he did not want to speak at length on the subject.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

58. Improvement of education among the Mahomedan community in the State.

Mr. Shaik Mahomed Hamidhani Thangal (Member, Nominated) thanked the Government for their kind solicitude for the welfare of the Mahomedans in the State and regretted that the number of Mahomedans who had received English education was infinitesimally small. The Member doubted whether even one per cent of the children of the school-going age attended the Vernacular Schools. The community had yet to learn what female education was. In education and enlightenment, the community occupied the lowest rung of the ladder, though history bore evidence to the fact that the community had once occupied a pre-eminent position politically, socially and educationally. There was no prospect of elevation

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly